

How One Overlooked Bible Verse Points You to Your Life's Direction

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Ever wonder if God has something **more** for your life?

It's one thing to know your sins are forgiven and you're going to heaven when you die. But is there something the Lord wants you accomplishing in the meantime?

The answer lies in an overlooked Bible verse known as the **Dominion Mandate**, given in the first chapter of Genesis.

That verse reads:

"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth" (Genesis 1:28).

Here we see God's plan for us from the beginning is:

To expand His work and rule over all creation.

When Adam's fall brought sin into the world, this assignment became difficult.

Yet God never repealed His original mandate.

And as Jesus fulfilled His own mission to bring redemption to the world, we can carry out the work the Lord has for us... assured He will restore all things!

But what does applying the Dominion Mandate look like practically, today?

I've written this simple **7 Point Guide** to get you started.

1. Take Total Responsibility for Your Domain

When God told Adam to cultivate and keep the Garden of Eden, He entrusted him with a domain.

Similarly, the Lord gives each of us a domain to care for and develop.

Like Adam, we resist being accountable for our domains. Yet it's in **taking responsibility** for whatever God puts in our charge that we fulfill His purpose.

So take stock of all God has assigned to you.

This includes people, property, opportunities and any other asset you can think of... and consider how you can **responsibly manage** these for the good of God's kingdom.

Your dominion efforts start here.

2. Partner with God in Prayer

God never created us to fulfill the Dominion Mandate on our own. He designed us to accomplish it **with Him.**

And thanks to Jesus, we now have the ability to carry out our dominion efforts in union with our Creator.

The way this functions in practice is through **prayer.**

By prayer you're able to enter God's story of renewal wherever He has you. And by prayer you can look to the Father to guide you in every aspect of your own calling.

So regularly **ask God** to show you your part in His mission for the world. And pray He'd empower you to follow His lead.

3. Rely on God's Word to Direct You

God gave us His Word to not only reveal Himself and His salvation, but to show us how to live as His representatives.

He wants us to see the world through **His eyes**, and then act accordingly as we take part in His transforming work.

This makes the Bible an essential guide to fulfilling the Dominion Mandate, as you apply it to **all of life**.

So make a habit of reading, hearing and meditating on scripture.

As you do, catch a vision of God's Kingdom and your place in it. Act on what He shows you. And allow His Word be a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path.

4. Consider What You Like to Do, AND What You Do Well

As God calls you to Himself, He crafts you with gifts and abilities suited for the good works He's prepared for you to do as His dominion-oriented servant.

So:

- > Take note of your interests... the activities you gravitate toward... and what you **like doing**.
- > And also pay attention to what you seem to be **good at doing**.

These are basic ways God helps you discover His calling on your life in this world.

5. Be a Careful Steward of All God Gives You

God has blessed you with time, talents and treasures to advance the Dominion Mandate.

The day will come when you'll give an account for how you've used these resources for Him, so put them to use now.

To become a good manager of what God gives you, regularly ask yourself:

- > Is this the best way to spend my **time** for the Master?
- > Are there better ways I could use my abilities to rule and cultivate the world for Him?
- > How can I make a greater kingdom impact with the **money** God has given me?

6. Make the Most of Your Relationships

One of the best ways you can extend the Dominion Mandate is through your influence on others.

So don't isolate yourself – as is so common today – but develop relationships God can use to grow His kingdom.

This begins by being an example of one who lives in service to the King.

But it also involves cultivating relationships with family members, friends, coworkers, neighbors, fellow believers and others to build them up for the work of God's kingdom.

In this way you can have a part in fulfilling God's purpose in the world for generations.

7. Beware of Your Adversary

Ever since his encounter with Adam in the Garden, Satan has tried to overthrow God's plan to bring His rule to the world through his image-bearers.

Fortunately, Jesus has already defeated Satan, and His kingdom will have no end.

But until the renewal of all things is complete, our adversary the devil will seek to keep us from executing God's plan for dominion.

Hence, we have to stay on guard.

So be watchful! Every temptation you face is an occasion to either allow sin have dominion over you or advance the Father's kingdom by trusting Him in your circumstances. **Moving Forward**

All history after the third chapter of Genesis is the story of God overcoming sin and its effects to fulfill His original Dominion Mandate in the world.

Through Jesus you've been made a part of this story. And He's chosen you and appointed to bear fruit for His kingdom.

Made for Dominion Ministries exists to help you in this work. And we look forward to developing additional resources to encourage and equip you for the mission God has for you.

In the meantime, here are some suggested **next steps** to help you on your journey...

1) Read the short emails that come from Made for Dominion each weekday.

These easy-to-read emails are written to give you a daily dose of hope and direction.

2) Find out more about how the Dominion Mandate applies to your life.

The book 'Get Dominion' gives the framework for living the life God designed for you.

3) Share the ideas from this guide – and madefordominion.com – with others.

Engaging this material with friends will further your own growth as you seek to fulfill the purpose God has for your life.

Despite the cynicism of our time, God intends to use you to bring good to our world. And His purpose for you goes back to the original Dominion Mandate.

But to fulfill your purpose, you have to take **action**. So the next step is yours.

If you have questions or comments, contact me. I'd love to know what you think!

For Christ and His Kingdom,

David

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To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:11